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Manuel de paléographie latine et française. Par MAURICE PROU. 3e Édition, entièrement refondue. Accompagnée d'un album de 24 planches. Paris: Alphonse Picard et Fils, 1910. 8vo, pp. 509.

The extensive changes in this new edition of Prou's manual make it a much more useful handbook on Latin paleography, especially for classical students, by whom the former editions were consulted chiefly on account of the "Dictionnaire des Abréviations." The present edition is not merely a revision of the second edition of 1892, but is in many respects practically a new work. A thoroughgoing rearrangement of the material has been made in the direction of a more systematic treatment. The order of the chapters has been considerably changed, and new chapters and sections have been added to fill up the manifest lacunae in the older work, and to bring the new edition abreast of recent developments. The increase in the number of pages from 403 to 509 does not fully represent the increase in the scope of the work, for the reason that the facsimiles, which were formerly printed in the body of the work, have been consigned to a separate album of 24 plates, and further space has been saved by the transfer to footnotes of much of the detailed information which in the former edition broke the continuity of the text.

Chap. vi, which, in the older edition, dealt with the writing materials and writing instruments of the Middle Ages only, has been rewritten to include the imperial period of Rome as well, and now forms chap. i of the new edition. The section on papyrus, in particular, has been greatly augmented in the light of the papyri discovered in Egypt in recent years by Petrie and by Grenfell and Hunt, and has been furnished, in the footnotes, with an extensive special bibliography of the recent literature. The pre-Carolingian period (chap. i of the second edition) is now divided into two chapters (ii and iii of the new edition), the first dealing with the Roman scripts, and the second with the national hands. The chapter on the Roman scripts has now prefixed to it a brief account of the Latin alphabet, and the arrangement of the scripts under majuscule and minuscule is much more rational than that of the previous edition. The capital cursive now precedes the uncial script, and receives a much more extensive treatment, which takes full account of the additional examples of the older Roman cursive found in the papyri of Egypt. Its historical development is illustrated by a chronological table tracing the growth of the cursive characters in Egypt from 41 to 247 A.D. The later cursive of the Ravenna documents is now treated as a minuscule cursive, and the semi-uncial script as a pre-Caroline minuscule. The section which dealt with the national hands has now been expanded into a chapter, and gives a fuller and more rational treatment of their development. The relationship of the Lombardic, Merovingian, and Visigothic hands

to the minuscule cursive, concerning which nothing is said in the older edition, is now clearly set forth, and the arrangement of the chapter is improved by waiving claims of patriotism and giving the Lombardic hand precedence over the Merovingian. The chapter on Abbreviations has been expanded in two directions, (1) by a much fuller discussion of the contractions of *Nomina Sacra*, and their origin, in the light of the recent work of Ludwig Traube (1907), and (2) by the addition of a section of seventeen pages, written by Maurice Jusselin, on *Notae Tironianae* and their relationship to the abbreviations of the Middle Ages. In the chapters on the Carolingian and post-Carolingian periods alterations are relatively fewer. The author has neglected the opportunity to remedy a manifest defect of the previous edition in connection with the latter of these two periods, and particularly the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. He has again made the mistake of confining himself too closely in his treatment of the book hands to the MSS of France, to the neglect of the rest of Europe, and Italy in particular, which at this time is, to the Latinist at least, quite as important as France. The "Dictionnaire des Abréviations" has undergone no change except that to it is now prefixed a brief historical account of previous collections of a similar nature.

To sum up, the value of a very useful book has been greatly increased by the addition of much new material, and a more systematic arrangement of the old.

F. W. SHIPLEY

Kosmas und Damian. Texte und Einleitung. Von LUDWIG DEUBNER. Leipzig und Berlin: Teubner, 1907. Pp. 1-240.

In his book *De Incubatione* (Leipzig, 1900) Deubner devoted a section of his chapter on incubation in the Christian church to the miracle-working saints, Cosmas and Damian. His present work gives us a series of critical texts with an elaborate introduction and full indices.

The Greek church recognized three pairs of saints by the name of Cosmas and Damian: one of Asiatic origin, the second Roman, the third Arabian. Their festivals, as recorded in the *Synaxarium* of the church, fall respectively on November 1, July 1, and October 17. It has, however, long been recognized that only one of these pairs can be original, from which the other two have been derived. That the original was in all probability the Asiatic pair Deubner shows conclusively. Their cult and the legends of their lives and marvelous works began in Constantinople, where the two saints were the Christian successors of the Dioscuroi, whose shrine of healing was founded by the eponymous Byzas, according to the legend preserved in a fragment of Hesychius of Miletus. Although Deubner makes the succession